

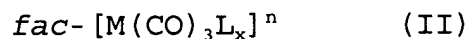
Amendments to the Claims:

Please add new claims 33-37 as indicated in the listing of claims below.

Claims:

1-26. (Canceled).

27. (Previously presented) A kit for carrying out a method of preparing a compound of formula

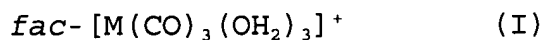


wherein:

M is Mn, ^{99m}Tc, ¹⁸⁶Re or ¹⁸⁸Re;

L_x is i) three monodentate ligands ii) one monodentate ligand and one bidentate ligand, or iii) one tridentate ligand;
and

n is a charge of the ligand L_x increased with one + charge;
comprising reacting ligand L_x with a compound of formula



wherein M is as defined above, and wherein the compound of formula (I) is prepared by reacting a metal in permethylate form with carbon monoxide and a stannous ion reducing agent, said kit comprising (1) a lyophilized stannous ion formulation which comprises said stannous ion and an anion, (2) carbon monoxide and (3) a metal M selected from the group consisting of Mn, $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$, ^{186}Re and ^{188}Re .

28. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 27 wherein said stannous ion reducing agent is SnCl_2 .

29. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 27 wherein said stannous ion formulation further comprises lactose.

30. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 27 wherein said stannous ion formulation further comprises pyrophosphate or gluceptate.

31. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 27 wherein L_x is an aminopolycarboxylate ligand.

32. (Canceled).

Please add new claims 33-37, as follows:

33. (New) A kit for preparing a metal carbonyl complex by stannous ion reduction which comprises (1) a lyophilized stannous ion reducing agent composition containing stannous ion and an anion and (2) a metal selected from the group consisting of Mn, ^{99m}Tc , ^{186}Re and ^{188}Re .

34. (New) The kit of claim 33 which further comprises carbon monoxide.

35. (New) The kit of claim 34 wherein said stannous ion is SnCl_2 .

36. (New) The kit of claim 34 wherein said stannous ion reducing agent composition further comprises lactose.

37. (New) The kit of claim 34 wherein said stannous ion reducing agent composition further comprises pyrophosphate or gluceptate.